

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-07 ACDA-12
AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00
DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 SOE-02
DOE-11 FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-14
JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02 OMB-01 PA-02
PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 (ISO) W
-----079359 060015Z /72

R 051833Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3024

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS MADRID 00148

COPENHAGEN FOR REGFISHATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, SP

SUBJECT: EMBARGO OF YELLOWFIN TUNA

REF: 77 MADRID 9730; STATE 1400

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED NOTE VERBALE JANUARY 4 FROM SPANISH GOVERNMENT ON SUBJECT. (COPY POUCHED TO DEPT , OES/OFA/FA). NOTE STATES THAT "ONLY THE FIRM 'CONSERVAS GARAVILLA SA' OF BERMEO HAS AT PRESENT THREE TUNA BOATS IN THE PACIFIC, NAMED 'ISABEL 2', 'ISABEL 4' AND 'ISABEL 5', AND THAT THESE BOATS HAVE DECLARED TO TE CITED SPANISH AUTHORITIES THAT THEY ARE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICAN NORMS ABOUT CAPTURE OF MARINE MAMMALS, WITH THE AIM OF SAFEGUARDING THE SPECIES."

2. THE NOTE FURTHER STATES THAT THE SPANISH BOATS WILL BE SHIFTED TO THE ATLANTIC IN MARCH 1978 AS PART OF THE FLEET
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WHICH WILL FISH IN SENEGALESE WATERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPANISH AGREEMENT WITH THAT COUNTRY. SPANISH FISHING OFFICIALS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT ONLY THESE THREE VESSELS HAVE FISHED IN PACIFIC DURING 1977 AND THAT THEY CANNOT OFFER EXPLANATION FOR OTHER FOUR VESSELS REPORTED BY IATTC.

3. COMMENT: SINCE IT APPEARS THAT SPAIN DOES NOT INTEND

TO EXPORT YELLOWFIN TUNA TO US MARKET, EXEMPTION TO
EMBARGO IS PROBABLY NOT NECESSARY. HOWEVER, LORENZO
GONZALEZ ALONSO, SPANISH DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL
FISHERIES AFFAIRS, WILL BE IN WASHINGTON ON JANUARY 16 AND
17 FOR GENERAL DISCUSSIONS PREPARATORY TO JOINT ECONOMIC
COMMITTEE MEETING AND EMBASSY HAS SUGGESTED THAT HE TAKE
UP YELLOWFIN TUNA PROBLEM WITH DEPARTMENT AND NMFS AT
THIS TIME. IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO BRIEF GONZALEZ ALONSO
ON THE 1975 EMBARGO MENTIONED IN PARA. 4, STATE 1400,
AS HE IS NEW IN THE FISHERIES POSITION AND PROBABLY NOT
AWARE OF PAST EVENTS. EATON

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